

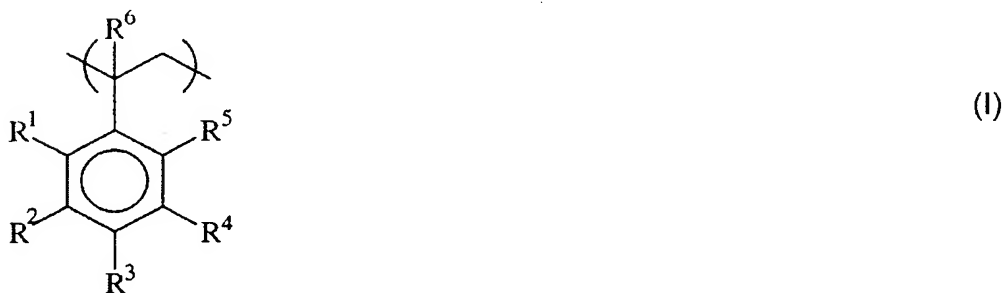
Claim Amendments

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims of the application.

Listing of Claims

Claim 1. (Previously Presented) A core-shell particle which has a core, a first shell and, optionally, a second shell, where:

- i) the core comprises, based on its total weight, at least 75.0 % by weight of (meth)acrylate repeat units;
- ii) the first shell has a glass transition temperature below 30° C;
- iii) the second shell optionally comprises, based on its total weight, at least 75.0 % by weight of (meth)acrylate repeat units; wherein
- iv) the first shell comprises, based on its total weight, the following constituents:
 - E) from 92.0 to 98.0 % by weight of (meth)acrylate repeat units and
 - F) from 2.0 to 8.0 % by weight of styrenic repeat units of formula (I)



where each of the radicals R¹ to R⁵, independently of the others, is hydrogen, a halogen, a C₁₋₆-alkyl group or a C₂₋₆-alkenyl group and the radical R⁶ is hydrogen or an alkyl group having from 1 to 6 carbon atoms,

where the percentages by weight of E) and F) give a total of 100.0 % by weight,

and in that

- v) the radius of the core-shell particle inclusive of any second shell present, measured by the Coulter method, is in the range from above 160.0 to 240.0 nm.

Claim 2. (Previously Presented) The core-shell particle according to Claim 1, wherein, based in each case on its total weight,

- i) the proportion of the core ranges from 5.0 to 50.0 % by weight,
 - ii) the proportion of the first shell ranges from 20.0 to 75.0 % by weight and
 - iii) the proportion of the second shell ranges from 0.0 to 50.0 % by weight,
- where the percentages by weight give a total of 100.0 % by weight.

Claim 3. (Previously Presented) The core-shell particle according to Claim 1, wherein the core comprises, based in each case on its total weight,

- A) from 50.0 to 99.9 % by weight of alkyl methacrylate repeat units having from 1 to 20 carbon atoms in the alkyl radical,
 - B) from 0.0 to 40.0 % by weight of alkyl acrylate repeat units having from 1 to 20 carbon atoms in the alkyl radical,
 - C) from 0.1 to 2.0 % by weight, of crosslinking repeat units and
 - D) from 0.0 to 8.0 % by weight of styrene repeat units of formula (I),
- where the percentages by weight give a total of 100 % by weight.

Claim 4. (Previously Presented) The core-shell particle according to Claim 3, wherein the core comprises, based in each case on its total weight, from 80.0 to 99.9 % by weight of methyl methacrylate repeat units and from 1.0 to 20.0 % by weight of alkyl acrylate repeat units having from 1 to 4 carbon atoms in the alkyl radical, where the percentages by weight give a total of 100.0 % by weight.

Claim 5. (Previously Presented) The core-shell particle according to Claim 1, wherein the first shell comprises, based in each case on its total weight,

- E-1) from 90.0 to 97.9 % by weight of alkyl acrylate repeat units having from 3 to 8 carbon atoms in the alkyl radical and/or alkyl methacrylate repeat units having from 7 to 14 carbon atoms in the alkyl radical,
 - E-2) from 0.1 to 2.0 % by weight of crosslinking repeat units and
 - F) from 2.0 to 8.0 % by weight of styrenic repeat units of formula (I),
- where the percentages by weight give a total of 100.0 % by weight.

Claim 6. (Previously Presented) The core-shell particle according to Claim 5, wherein the alkyl acrylate repeat units having from 3 to 8 carbon atoms in the alkyl radical and/or alkyl methacrylate repeat units having from 7 to 14 carbon atoms in the alkyl radical are butyl acrylate repeat units and/or dodecyl methacrylate repeat units.

Claim 7. (Previously Presented) The core-shell particle according to Claim 1, wherein the core-shell particle has a second shell which, based in each case on its total weight, comprises

- G) from 50.0 to 100.0 % by weight of alkyl methacrylate repeat units having from 1 to 20 carbon atoms in the alkyl radical,

- H) from 0.0 to 40.0 % by weight of alkyl acrylate repeat units having from 1 to 20 carbon atoms in the alkyl radical and
- I) from 0.0 to 8.0 % by weight of styrenic repeat units of formula (I),
where the percentages by weight give a total of 100.0 % by weight.

Claim 8. (Previously Presented) The core-shell particle according to Claim 1, wherein the core has a glass transition temperature of at least 30° C.

Claim 9. (Previously Presented) The core-shell particle according to Claim 1, wherein the core-shell particle has a second shell, which has a glass transition temperature of at least 30° C.

Claim 10. (Previously Presented) A process for preparing a core-shell particle according to Claim 1, which comprises:

polymerizing the monomers of each stage of said core, first shell and second shell under multistage emulsion polymerization conditions.

Claims 11-15. (Canceled)